
Executive Summary

National Wildland Significant Fire Potential Outlook



**National Interagency Fire Center
Predictive Services**



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May 2012 through August 2012

Significant Fire Potential

- Above Normal Significant Fire Potential is expected across most of the interior mountains and foothills of Southern California; the Sierras; much of northwestern and northern Nevada; southeastern Oregon; southwestern Idaho; the northern and central mountains of Utah; south central Wyoming; western Colorado; most of northwest, central and southeastern Arizona; western New Mexico; northern Minnesota; northern Wisconsin; northern Michigan; most of Florida; and extreme southern Georgia and southeastern South Carolina.
- Significant Fire Potential will decrease to below normal this summer along the East coast from North Carolina to central Florida.
- Below Normal Significant Fire Potential is expected for southern Alaska; Louisiana; southeastern Texas; southern Arkansas; southeastern Mississippi; far southwestern Alabama; and the western portion of the Florida Panhandle.
- The rest of the country will have normal significant fire potential.

Climate and Drought Conditions

- La Niña has all but disappeared as oceanic trends point to a neutral pattern for the equatorial Pacific through spring with an increasing possibility of weak El Niño conditions developing by early summer. Timing of this transition is uncertain and can have large consequences for the projected fire potential.
- The Climate Prediction Center expects warmer than normal temperatures across the southern two-thirds of the U.S. Below normal temperatures are expected across the Northwest and southern Alaska in May.
- Precipitation is expected to be below median across the Northwest and the northern Rockies.
- Drought will persist through much of the lower Atlantic and eastern Gulf coast states; most of the Southwest from western and southern Texas to Arizona; most of central and southern California; and the Great Basin. There will be some improvement in the upper Midwest; the New England and mid-Atlantic coasts; and the Southeast

